

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, President Bush, Sr., proudly spoke of "The New World Order," a term used by those who promote one-world government under the United Nations. In going to war in 1991, he sought and received U.N. authority to push Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. He forcefully stated that this U.N. authority was adequate and that although a congressional resolution was acceptable, it was entirely unnecessary and he would proceed regardless. At that time, there was no discussion regarding a congressional declaration of war. The first Persian Gulf War, therefore, was clearly a U.N. political war fought within U.N. guidelines, not for U.S. security; and it was not fought through to victory. The bombings, sanctions, and harassment of the Iraqi people have never stopped. We are now about to resume the act of fighting. Although this is referred to as the Second Persian Gulf War, it is merely a continuation of a war started long ago and is likely to continue for a long time, even after Saddam Hussein is removed from power.

Our attitude toward the United Nations is quite different today compared to 1991. I have argued for years against our membership in the United Nations because it compromises our sovereignty. The U.S. has always been expected to pay an unfair percentage of U.N. expenses. I contend that membership in the United Nations has led to impractical military conflicts that were highly costly, both in lives and dollars, and that were rarely resolved.

Our 58 years in Korea have seen 33,000 lives lost, 100,000 casualties and over \$1 trillion in today's dollars spent. Korea is the most outrageous example of our fighting a U.N. war without a declaration from the U.S. Congress. And where are we today? On the verge of a nuclear confrontation with a North Korean regime nearly out of control. And to compound the irony, the South Koreans are intervening in hopes of diminishing the tensions that exist between the United States and North Korea.

As bad as the Vietnam nightmare was, at least we left and the U.N. was not involved. We left in defeat and Vietnam remained a unified, Communist country. The results have been much more salutary. Vietnam is now essentially non-Communist and trade with the West is routine. We did not disarm Vietnam; we never counted their weapons; and so far, no one cares. Peaceful relations have developed between our two countries not by force of arms, but through trade and friendship. No United Nations, no war, and no inspections served us well, even after many decades of war and a million deaths inflicted on the Vietnamese in an effort by both the French and the United States to force them into compliance with Western demands.

In this new battle with Iraq, our relationship with the United Nations and our allies is drawing a lot of attention. The administration now says it would be nice to have U.N. support, but it is

not necessary. The President argues that a unilateralist approach is permissible with his understanding of national sovereignty, but no mention is made of the fact that the authority to go to war is not a U.N. prerogative and that such authority can only come from the U.S. Congress.

Although the argument that the United Nations cannot dictate to us what is in our best interests is correct, and we do have a right to pursue foreign policy unilaterally, it is ironic that we are making this declaration in order to pursue an unpopular war that very few people or governments throughout the world support.

But the argument for unilateralism and national sovereignty cannot be made for the purpose of enforcing U.N. security resolutions. That does not make any sense. If one wants to enforce U.N. Security Council resolutions, that authority can only come from the United Nations itself. We end up with the worst of both worlds, hated for our unilateralism, but still lending credibility to the United Nations.

The Constitution makes it clear that if we must counter a threat to our security, that authority must come from the U.S. Congress.

Those who believe, and many sincerely do, that the United Nations serves a useful function, argue that ignoring the United Nations at this juncture will surely make it irrelevant. Even with my opposition to the United Nations, I can hardly be pleased that its irrelevancy might come about because of our rush to war against a nation that has not aggressed against us nor poses any threat to us.

From my viewpoint, the worst scenario would be for the United Nations to sanction this war, which may well occur if we offer enough U.S. taxpayer money and Iraqi oil to the reluctant countries. If that happens, we could be looking at another 58-year occupation, expanded Middle East chaos, or a dangerous spread of hostility to all of Asia or even further.

With regard to foreign affairs, the best advice comes from our Founders and the Constitution. It is better to promote peace and commerce with all nations and exclude ourselves from the entangling alliances and complex, unworkable alliances that comes from our membership in the United Nations.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE STATION NIGHTCLUB FIRE IN RHODE ISLAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight with great sorrow and a heavy heart to honor the victims of last week's horrific night club fire at the Station Night Club in West Warwick, Rhode Island, that claimed 97 lives and left 187 injured.

In any community, that tragedy would have been overwhelming; but in

a small State like Rhode Island, when a close-knit town in the center of our State falls victim to one of the worst nightclub fires in the Nation's history, the impact is simply incomprehensible. It is said that in our world today, only 6 degrees separates each one of us from any other person. As our Attorney General remarked, in Rhode Island, that distance is more like 1½ degrees. Everyone here has a connection to one of the victims and, indeed, connections are being made by people all across New England and the country.

As Rhode Islanders begin the healing process, I want to express my deepest condolences to those friends and family members who lost loved ones in this horrible fire. There are no words to adequately express our profound sadness. Please know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of all Americans, and we will not let the lives of those 97 sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, mothers, and fathers be forgotten.

As of this afternoon, 64 people remain hospitalized, 46 of them in critical condition. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in offering our prayers for their quick and full recovery. They are fighting every hour, and they need our strength now more than ever. Our best wishes go out to them and their families as they weather the tough days ahead.

I would also like to express my immense gratitude to the incredible and heroic efforts of the multitude of people and agencies throughout Rhode Island and Massachusetts who have helped respond to this disaster.

The firefighters, police, and emergency responders who were first on the scene made a Herculean effort under unimaginable circumstances, and we surely have them to thank that even more lives were not lost. In addition, over a dozen hospitals in Rhode Island and Massachusetts have been caring for the patients since this tragedy, many of whom have made amazing progress. The doctors and nurses and the support staff of these hospitals have worked tirelessly to help nearly 200 injured victims, and we are grateful for their service.

As usual, when tragedy strikes Rhode Island, our community has proven strong, resilient, and boundlessly generous. I want to recognize the work of countless volunteers who have put their own lives on hold to offer time, financial resources, and the many other kinds of assistance and who helped in any way that they could. Likewise, many members of our State's business community have come forward to provide everything from food and shelter to transportation to those affected by this event. I would particularly like to thank the Red Cross and its scores of volunteers and for all that they have done to give comfort and assistance to those whose loved ones were lost or injured.

I would also like to commend the excellent response by Rhode Island's elected officials and State and local

agencies. Our governor, Governor Carcieri, has provided outstanding leadership throughout this tragedy and shown extraordinary sensitivity to the families involved, and I have personally heard from many of them how much they appreciate his efforts. Lieutenant Governor Charles Fogarty and Major General Reginald Centracchio, as cochairmen of the Management Advisory Council, have also played a crucial role in this crisis, and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency has impressively and effectively coordinated a myriad of State and local activities.

I would also like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY), for his assistance, his friendship, and his support over the past several days, and Rhode Island's senior Senator, JACK REED, and Senator LINCOLN CHAFFEE for their tremendous efforts and leadership.

□ 1930

Finally, I want to express my great appreciation for the assistance of several Federal agencies, including FEMA, Social Security, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Their involvement has been critical, and I look forward to working with them further in the days and weeks to come.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, allow me to offer these final thoughts.

For those that have lost their lives, we can only take comfort that they are now in a better place. For those that fight hour to hour, we pray for their recovery. For the families and friends who have lost loved ones, we offer our shoulders to lean on in their time of need. For all Rhode Islanders and our fellow citizens across the country, it is our time to provide strength, comfort, and assistance to those who need it, and do whatever it takes to ensure that such a tragedy never befalls any community such as this again.

IN SUPPORT OF THE EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS, PREVENTION AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEAUPREZ). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, food is one of life's greatest pleasures. Food is also one of life's greatest necessities. Yet, for many, food is an enemy and the act of eating is torture.

An estimated 5 million to 10 million Americans suffer from eating-related diseases, including anorexia, bulimia, and binge-eating disorders. As many as 50,000 of those affected will die as a direct result of these disorders.

Young women are the most common victims of these deadly diseases, but a significant number of males also expe-

rience eating-related disorders. We are all aware of the medical complications that result from anorexia and bulimia: malnutrition, liver damage, gum erosion, and even death. However, an often-overlooked consequence of eating disorders is the negative impact they have on a child's educational achievement. Students with eating disorders often see their school performance decline due to lapses in concentration, loss of self-esteem, depression, and engaging in self-destructive behaviors.

Listen to how one young woman in our district describes the destruction done to her life by an eating disorder: "I am a 16-year-old with anorexia. Having this disease has been the most horrible experience of my life. It completely takes control of your life. It breaks up your family, friends, and your actual thinking decisions. I have had this disorder for over a year and a half. Over that year and a half I have been slowly killing myself."

Despite the social and physical devastation that these diseases inflict on young people such as this girl, very few States or school districts have adequate programs or services to help children suffering from weight-related disorders. It is not that educators or parents do not realize the problems caused by bulimia or binge-eating or are unable to identify affected students; in many cases, they either do not know how to respond to the problem or are without the resources to help educate our youth about the dangers of eating disorders.

It is for this reason that I am introducing the Eating Disorders Awareness, Prevention and Education Act of 2003. This legislation has three parts which together are designed to raise awareness nationally of the problems caused by eating disorders, and to expand opportunities for parents and educators to address them at the school level. This last goal is particularly important as 86 percent of the affected individuals develop their eating disorders before the age 20.

Here is a quick summary of what the Eating Disorders Awareness, Prevention and Education Act will do:

First, the legislation provides States and local school districts with the option of using title V funds to set up eating disorder prevention, awareness and education programs. Under the No Child Left Behind Act, title V funds can be used for nine specific activities to improve the academic outcome of students. This legislation would make eating disorders awareness, education and prevention the tenth allowable use.

Because this legislation expands what States and school districts can do with funds they already receive, it allows us to help vulnerable students without increasing the Federal Government's involvement in local education matters or creating a new Federal program.

The second major provision of this bill ties in with the first. It requires the National Center for Education Sta-

tistics at the Department of Education and the National Center for Health Statistics at the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a joint study and report to Congress on the impact eating disorders have on educational advancement and achievement.

The study will evaluate the extent to which students with eating disorders are more likely to miss school, have delayed rates of development, or reduce cognitive skills. The study will also outline current State and local programs to educate youth about the dangers of eating disorders, as well as evaluate the value of such programs.

The third and final piece of this legislation calls for the Department of Education and Health and Human Services to carry out a national eating disorders public awareness campaign. This campaign will be similar to the antidrug campaign now being run by the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Mr. Speaker, there is no easy solution to the problem of eating disorders. They present a serious threat to the health and educational advancement of our Nation's children. They must be addressed.

The Eating Disorders Awareness, Prevention and Education Act gives States, local school districts, and parents the tools needed to address this problem at its root: in schools and classrooms across America. At the same time, it continues the principle of local control of education, makes good use of limited Federal resources, and increases educational opportunities for this group of at-risk children.

Let me close by quoting another young woman from my district struggling with an eating disorder. After describing her tragic battle with anorexia, she closed her letter by saying this: "I really hope that you now realize how important it is to have some awareness and programs in schools about eating disorders."

I do understand, Mr. Speaker, and hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this much needed legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 108TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on International Relations has adopted written rules governing its procedure. Pursuant to Rule XI, clause 2, I am hereby submitting them for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.